

# THE JUNCTION

**WEEKEND**

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Beginning March 30 up to May 11, 2012 (13 issues), The Junction Newspaper will be out on a Bi-weekly basis with an increased and targeted circulation, as we have been doing for the past 4 elections. Read exclusive exposes on the various electoral candidates!!!

MABUHAYANG PILIPINO!!! BAGUIO CITY, AND LATRINIDAD, BENGUET LONG LIVE THE FILIPINO!!!

## Domogan Claims PNOY Fed with Wrong info

BAGUIO CITY – City Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday during the weekly Ugnayan Presser issued calls for support for the president despite tirades over the present local administration here.

Domogan admitted he was saddened by the president's pronouncement Sunday comparing his administration to a Zigzag governance.

'I think the president was fed with the wrong information,' Domogan said.

Accordingly, President Benigno Aquino III during the Liberal Party Campaign Rally Sunday echoed his sentiments over what he called deteriorating tourism sites in the city which included Mines View Park and Crystal Cave and how local officials here are running the present local administration.

Domogan said, 'despite the president's negative statement towards them, he still respects him and would take it as a constructive criticism and serve as a challenge to continue to improve his performance in addressing the concerns of the city.'

Domogan admitted the sorry state of Mines View

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**HIS EXCELLENCY MUST HAVE BEEN MISLED** says Mayor Mauricio Domogan during the weekly "Ugnayan" with local media practitioners here. President Benigno "Noy" Aquino III made remarks on the deteriorating tourism industry of the city last March 17 during an LP rally here./Bong Cayabyab

*Ikaw talaga Mayor "For Life" Domogan, nagsasabi lang ng tutuo si Penoy, bagmat sa mata ng mga ibay nabastos kayo. Mayroon kasabihan sa Ingles- "The truth hurts but it is the truth"!!!*

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**GOODBYE, "MR LITTLE PRESIDENT"**

**BY: JESUS DUREZA**



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## City Derives Revenue Bulk from Tourism

BAGUIO CITY – the city's coffers say tourism in this mountain resort remains strong despite earlier pronouncements that tourist arrivals have declined.

City Mayor Mauricio Domogan revealed this Wednesday during the Weekly Ugnayan Presser answering queries from the media that tourist arrivals have gone down.

'We must understand that there are already a lot of tourist destinations in the country, but we can say that the City of Baguio continuous to get its share from the tourism industry,' Domogan said.

'You see, the city is a trade center of the Cordilleras, it is also a tourist destination and an educational center and an economic zone, he said.

Domogan also said if the city's tourism industry has gone down, maybe it has an effect on the city's income.

'If you look at it, the city receives an Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) of more than 400 million pesos, the city's yearly budget is 1.3 billion, in short, the bulk of income that supports the operation of the city comes from local source and tourism is one of them,' he said.

'Never na nagdeficit ang city in our governance, we can say that the city is continuing to get its share from the tourism business of the country,' Domogan said.

Asked on plans of creating a Tourism Department, the mayor clarified that he has already included in the revised city charter the creation of a separate tourism department and Information technology department which he said is needed.

Domogan also said, 'creating a department is not that easy in the city because of the 45% ceiling limit for personnel expenses but we are working on that.'

Domogan also clarified a lot of partners are also working with the city government in the tourism aspect such as the Hotel and Restaurants Management (HRAB), the Baguio Convention Visitors Bureau and other partners./paul rillorta

## Mayor Denies Fund Raising Activity in Roadside Vehicle Testing

BAGUIO CITY – City Mayor Mauricio Domogan during the Weekly Ugnayan Presser stressed the need for the continuous implementation of the Road Side Inspection and Monitoring of

smoke belching vehicles here.

The mayor said the air quality in the city should never be compromised and should always be prioritized.

'We are being misunderstood, meron yung nagsasabi na fund raising lang daw natin yung

nanghuhuli ng vehicles na nagbubuga ng masyadong polluted smoke ngunit eto eh batas,' he stressed.

'We are doing this because it is important to maintain our air quality which has an effect to all of us, especially those who

Cont. on page 8

## Mayor Clarifies Road Repairs

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday answered the

on-going rehabilitation of major roads most especially the re-blocking and concreting of Marcos Hi-way which has been done last year and is again affecting residents here.

Domogan clarified, 'residents should understand that it is a national government project being implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and there is a standard basis of assessment which is being implemented.

'Kung nakita nila yung national road, kailangan simulan yung rehabilitation eh gagamitin nila yung kanilang maintenance budget,' he said.

The public is also clamoring why budget is pouring on the rehabilitation of good roads instead of roads which really need immediate rehabilitation.

'Unfortunately, we cannot transfer the fund intended for the rehabilitation of a national road because it came from the national government, we cannot use it for a barangay road or city road,' he clarified.

'If we do that, baka i-charge ka ng technical malversacion, that is our situation,' he said./paul rillorta

## SWAP done at HSO

BAGUIO CITY – A Sector Wide Approach to Dengue (SWAP Dengue) was conducted last week at the City Health Services Office (HSO) to help combat the deadly virus-carrying-mosquito which during the last few years peaks for just a few months but now thrives year-round.

Attended by HSO medical doctors, representatives from the Baguio Water District, Department of Health-CAR, Department of Education, Department of Public Works and Highways, private and concerned entities purposed to "establish a Public-Private Partnership collaboration to allow better coordination and cooperation to intensify our fight against dengue, to reduce cases and control transmission."

In her letter-invitation, City Health Officer Florence Reyes said the project team will "identify health and environment issues and community values" to be considered in the SWAP Dengue approach.

During the forum, entomologist Ursula Segundo of the Department of Health-CAR presented results of Dengue larval surveys in the city, as Dr. Donnabel Tubera presented some facts about Dengue in the city; both reports with data culled within the past five years.

Mr. Hermonica Guanzon of the Health Education and Sanitation Divisions, HSO reported 2 deaths and 349 cases in 2008, no fatality and 305 cases in 2009, 3 deaths and 1161 cases in 2010, 2 deaths and 435 cases in 2011, one death and 715 cases in 2012. There were no deaths, but with 22 cases in January and 15 in February this year, it was reported.

The use of Philhealth funds amounting to P18 to 37M, productivity and school days wasted, and hospital stay with an average of 11 days with caregiver's time used up was also considered. Much funds and time could have been saved, the HSO personnel admitted.

It was admitted that being well-informed of the symptoms of Dengue and how to control, if not eradicate Dengue-bearing mosquitoes did much to keep the cases down. Control factors done in the community with the help of barangay officials such as fumigation, fogging, "search and destroy," the four o'clock habit, "operation taob" were also discussed as effective. Small efforts mean much, it was agreed, but much more could be done to control cases, the attendees said.

The academe; from the primary, secondary and college levels could be tapped for wider information dissemination; it was also agreed.

The use of repellent plants; marigold and sunflower, to ward off mosquitoes was raised. The lifecycle of Dengue-carrying mosquito Aedes aegypti considered, Cont. on page 8

## City Sets Window for Market Vending

BAGUIO CITY – a dialogue addressing the clamor of vendors to be

given a chance to sell their wares without fear of confiscation from the Public Order and Safety Division (POSD) was held here between vendors and the city government.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan Wednesday said concerns between the Market Task Force and the affected vendors have been explained.

'We had a dialogue with the sidewalk vendors in the city market and we have agreed that areas not allowed for selling will be strictly implemented,' he said.

We are trying to help them by pinpointing areas which they can sell and the Market Task

Force have identified places where they can sell for a limited time only, Domogan said.

The mayor also said there are places where they can sell from 5 to 7:30 in the morning without extensions and 5 pm onwards while prohibited places will be strictly monitored by the POSD.

The move was in response to the request of sidewalk vendors to also ply their trade especially this coming summer season.

However, the mayor emphasized the window will be strictly followed as this has been abused in the past.

Domogan said, violators will have their goods confiscated and brought to the Social Welfare and Development Office for processing pursuant to the city ordinance on illegal vending.

Domogan also appealed to the public not to patronize illegal vendors and even compared it to illegal gambling which is also being discreetly patronized.

'Parang sugal din yan, palagi nating sinasabi kung gusto nating totally mahinto yung sugal sa City of Baguio lahat tayo ihinto nating magsugal, ngunit kung may nagsusugal you cannot guard a person 24 hours a day,' he stressed.

Meantime, officials here are looking forward to the opening of the rehabilitated block 4 which is set to accommodate vendors who were displaced during its construction phase and is seen to address sidewalk vending in the public market./paul rillorta

## Public Hearing on Smoke Emission Roadside Tests Done

BAGUIO CITY – A technical working group (TWG) shall be created to help work out amendments of the city's clean air act ordinance including provisions for the Roadside Inspection Testing and Monitoring Team (RITMT), Councilor Peter Fianza said last Thursday during a public hearing conducted at City Hall, Session hall.

Present during the forum are council committee chair and members of the Public Utilities, Transportation and Traffic Legislation; Councilors Nicasio Aliping, Jr., Edison Bilog,

and Fianza, respectively; Engineer Moises Lozano of the RITMT, City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO), and representatives from various transport groups.

The RITMT, was earlier the subject of complaints from Public Utility Vehicle (PUV) drivers and operators as to alleged inconsistencies in the machines' smoke emission readings. Objections as to alleged changeable readings were also aired for those whose vehicles

were caught randomly and tested on-site and at the Clean Air Monitoring Unit (CAMU), CEPMO at Sanitary Camp.

Some drivers claim their vehicles passed in accredited Private Emission Testing Centers (PETS), caught for smoke-belching along the streets and fail in the city's RITMT machines and at the CAMU at Sanitary Camp. This speaks of uneven readings from the different testing machines, provided that the vehicle's mechanisms and engines were never tampered with, Cont. on page 8



THE JUNCTION

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## Pres. Aquino Outlines Major Accomplishments in Baguio-Benguet

BAGUIO CITY – President Benigno S. Aquino on Sunday outlined some of the major accomplishments of his administration in Baguio - Benguet under his "Tuwid na daan" campaign.

In his speech before local leaders and community in Baguio City, the President disclosed that in Benguet, there are now on-going works on the more than 65 kilometers Gurel-Bokod-kabayan-Buguias road that would cut travel time from Bokod to Buguias to one hour from the current two hours.

The said road if completed will give travel convenience to the more than 2,900 motorists who pass through the road daily which includes tourists bound to Mt. Pulag and Kabayan Caves, both in the town of Kabayan.

In terms of electrification, Aquino said that his administration is on tract in providing electricity to every Filipino home. He said that a total of 7,200 sitios was already energized nationwide while in Benguet, there are already 118 sitios energized with cheaper price.

For the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps, the President noted that at present there are 3.85 poor families who are benefitting from the said program.

He said that for Baguio there are 2,881 beneficiaries of the government's pro-poor program who are now on their way on breaking the cycle of poverty.

The President also thanked the Cordillerans for making him number 1 when he ran for president in the May 2010 presidential elections. He likewise exhorted the people of the Cordillera to support candidates allied with his administration to easily realize reforms.

Meantime, the President also assured that the 66,800 classroom shortage in public schools will be fully addressed by the end of December 2013.

"Ang minana nating 66,800 na kakulangan sa silid-aralan, mabubura na natin nang tuluyan ngayong taon. pangako po ni Bro. Armin Luistro sa dulo po ng 2013, wala na po tayong kakulangan sa silid-aralan," the president added.

He also informed during the meeting with local leaders and community that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), because of effective implementation of projects was able to save more than P15B from its infrastructure projects since the start of the Aquino administration./JDP/MAWC/PIA CAR

## CHED-CAR Urges Financially-Constrained Studes to Approach School Officials

L A TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Commission on Higher Education - Cordillera is encouraging students who are financially-constrained to approach their school officials and ask for special permits to be able to take the examinations.

CHED-CAR Assistant Regional Director Ramon Santiago said that students can make arrangements with their schools on how

they can avail of special permits for them to take their examinations.

Santiago said that the CHED is strictly obligating schools not to deny any student of their education due to financial problems as stated in the Manual of Regulations for Private Higher Education, Article 20, Section 99 or the Denial of Final Examinations; Withholding of Grades and Refusal to Re-enroll. It states, "No

higher education institution shall deny final examinations to a student who has outstanding financial or property obligations, including unpaid tuition and other school fees corresponding to the school term. However, the institution may withhold the final grades or may refuse re-enrollment of such student. Provided, that, in case of withholding of final grades, the fi-

Cont. on page 9

## Team Buhay, Team Patay Tarp Reaches Baguio

BAGUIO CITY - The controversial Team Buhay, Team Patay tarpaulin has reached the 'Summer Capital' of the country.

Bishop Carlito Cenzon of the Diocese of Baguio said that they have decided to put up the Team Buhay, Team Patay tarpaulin in front of the Baguio Cathedral as what was done at the San Sebastian Cathedral in Bacolod City.

Baguio Cathedral parish priest Emmanuel Panayo said members of the Commission on Family and Life had asked permission to display the tarpaulin. He said the bishop had approved it.

The Diocese made clear that they are not endorsing any politician listed on the tarpaulin, rather they are just showing who voted for and against the Reproductive Health Bill in the Congress and Senate.

"Hindi tayo nakikialam sa pulitika pero suportado natin ito," said Cenzon.

Team Patay was the tag given to senatorial bets and party-list groups who had voted for the passage of the Reproductive Health bill, which had long been opposed by the Catholic Church.

On the other hand, those who had opposed the measure were tagged as members of Team Buhay.

Church goers also had mix reactions with the tarpaulin. Some say this is not the proper venue for politicking but some say this is just right particularly for the Catholic voters to see.

Bishop Cenzon informed that the posting of the tarp which is a smaller version than the one in Bacolod, is not questioned by the Commission on Elections so far./JDP/RC-PIA CAR

## Dads back Taxi Group's Clamor vs. Tax Increase

BAGUIO CITY - The city council last Monday supported the clamor of the Samahan ng mga Taxi sa Cordillera Administrative Region (STCAR) for the suspension of the imposition of the increase in the monthly percentage tax imposed taxi units.

The body endorsed the request to the Bureau of Internal Revenue Baguio Revenue District Office after STCAR representatives sought audience with the councilors to air their opposition to the 100 percent increase in the monthly percentage tax or from P275 to P550 which they described as "unlawful, unjust and confiscatory."

Dads back Taxi Group's Clamor vs. Tax Increase Taxi group

leaders including Perfecto Iltiong Jr. and Jun Panayo told the body that the increase is contrary to their arrangement with the BIR to impose a 10 percent increase every year.

In an advisory, the BIR announced the imposition of the following new schedule of rates for the payment of monthly percentage taxes effective January 2013: garbage, school service/ - from P209 to P230; mini-bus - from P385 to P424; public utility jeepney - from P165 to P182; and taxi - from P275 to P550.

Iltiong said the taxi association felt they were singled out having been imposed the staggering 100 percent increase.

In a petition submitted to the

city council, the STCAR said, "A scrutiny on the imposed fees and rates... would readily disclose a huge discrepancy (in the rates imposed) on taxi operators vis-à-vis other common carriers... It

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## Senatorial Bets Campaign in Baguio

BAGUIO CITY - Election fever was high in Baguio over the weekend as senatorial bets both from the ruling party Liberal Party and the opposition United Nationalist Alliance (UNA) had various events in the city.

On Saturday, Liberal Party Senatorial bet Riza Hontiveros and UNA bet Jack Enrile had their press conferences in separate venues along Session Road.

On Sunday, Sonny Angara of LP met the local media at Café by the Ruins while UNA prime mover former president Joseph Ejercito Estrada along with his son senatorial bet JV Ejercito Estrada also had their own sortie at the Baguio Heritage Mansion.

UNA candidates Nancy Binay, Mitos Magsaysay, Ernesto Maceda, Jack Enrile and Migz Zubiri, along with party spokesperson Toby Tiangco also held a press conference at the Dad and I Restaurant.

Later in the afternoon, the LP and the UNA held a simultaneous rally in the city- the LP at the Melvin Jones Grandstand at the Burnham Park at the UNA at the Baguio Convention Center.

Team PNOY senatorial bets Riza Hontiveros, Koko Pimentel, Bam Aquino, Allan Peter Cajetano and Jamby Madrigal presented their platforms of governance. They were joined by representatives of the other LP senatorial bets like celebrity Sheryl Cruz for cousin Grace Poe and Lean Leviste for his mother Loren Legarda.

President Benigno Aquino III, who was the guest of honor during the graduation rites of the Philippine Military Academy Pundang Kalis Class of 2013 earlier, also joined the event to meet with the local LP community leaders in Baguio.

The UNA rally, on the other hand, presented the Estradas, Zubiri, Magsaysay, Binay, Maceda and Gregorio Honasan. They were joined by Baguio's Timpuyog Party headed by Congressman Bernardo Vergara and Mayor Mauricio Domogan./CCD/PIA CAR

## Balili River Designated as Water Quality Management Area; Governing Board Created

BAGUIO CITY - Department of Environment Management and Natural Resources (DENR) protect and improve water quality of the river system. The DENR Administrative Order No. 2013-05 designated the Balili River as WQMA covering the areas of La Trinidad and Sablan in Benguet and the city, pursuant to

Administrative Order No. 2013-05 designated the Balili River as WQMA covering the areas of La Trinidad and Sablan in Benguet and the city, pursuant to

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CLAD IN NATIVE REGALLA...Proud kindergarden student Zyrus Clint Nadeydey of Dontogan Day Care Center proudly wears the traditional Igorot G-string complete with accessories worn by his forefathers during the Day Care Center Recognition Day held at the Baguio Convention Center March 19./Bong Cayabyab

## Let The Ill Fed Pay

On grimy post office steps, flanked by cartoons and plastic bottles, scavenger "Raul" prepared Sunday breakfast: green mangoes plus salt. Kain tayo, sir, he called when we prepared to mail a letter. "Dine with me."

"Raul" is 55, but looks 80. Blind in one eye, he limps in discarded slippers. Hand-me-down clothes flap on a frame sapped by too many altanghaps: breakfast (almusal), lunch (tanghalian) dinner (hapunan) rolled into one.

We ichted to prod Raul: Ask Senators Juan Ponce Enrile, Jinggoy Estrada and, Ramon Revilla. Did you include me in P194.7million doled from your pork barrel to bogus NGOs?"

Commission on Audit documents how legislators shoved millions to a shell Pangkabuhayan Foundation Inc, then flipped to a bogus ZNAC Rubber Estate Corp (ZREC). Amounts squandered: Estrada — P106.7million; Enrile — P74.69million; Revilla — P9.7million.

This foundation deployed multiple tax identification numbers. They claimed no liabilities, but their Quezon City office was padlocked for failure to pay rent. PFI president, Petronila A. Balmaceda vamoosed. Fund balance equaled total assets — to the last centavo, auditors marveled. How did it "operate without any office equipment, furniture and fix-

## EDITORIAL

tures, essential in day to day operations?" Raul never heard of these scams. So,

we zipped our lips and instead cast about for some cash. He'd breakfast on something other than salted green mangoes, this Sunday morning at least.

But what about breakfast Monday? And how many other Rauls are there?

This January, Social Weather Stations reported: 3.3 million families went hungry in the last quarter of 2012. That's a million families fewer than in the previous quarter. Still, "hunger knows no friend."

Estrada, Enrile and Revilla insist they were conned. Enrile claimed ignorance of the recipient of his pork. "What I designated were local government units. And I do not know why ZREC had to transfer the money to Pangkabuhayan Foundation whatever that is..."

Revilla scrubbed his hands too. Sure, he identified projects under the agriculture department's program for Basilan. "When an NGO asks for our help to assist countrymen caught in the armed conflict in Mindanao, we had no second thoughts. We set aside funds for them, especially since it was the Department of Agriculture that'd implement the project."

"I do not recall the name of that foundation, "blandly declared former agriculture secretary, now Bohol congressman Arthur Yap. He also passed the buck "Senators and congressmen, then and today, are allowed to endorse coops to undertake projects using their PDAF. They must account for the funds.

"They're all honest men," as the Iberian shepherd wailed. "But my cloak is still missing. "Is that because the senators played deaf? Wala ng bingi ditto sa mundo gaya nang ayaw makikinig, the Tagalog proverb says. 'There are none so blind as those who refuse to see."

Malacanang provided an unsolicited reminder. As senator, President Benigno Aquino III, in December 2009, voted against the budget — precisely because it allocated P340 million from legislators' pork kitty to a corporation recommended for dissolution since December 2003. Guess who?

Who else but ZNAC Rubber Estate Corp. "Why and how could funds have been allocated to a corporation subject for dissolution?" then Senator Aquino said. He shredded then Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap excuse: There'd been no Department of Finance notification that ZREC had been blackballed.

"We cannot simply dismiss suspicions of duplicity and corruption," Aquino insisted. The 2009 COA report already flagged warnings about ZREC. Cagayan de Oro Rep. Rufus Rodriguez included ZREC on a list of 36 "underperforming" government-owned and-controlled corporations. Rodriguez recommended it's abolition in a bill that he filed in the House.

From 2008 to 2013, the Senate's Maintenance Operating and Others Expenses kitty bolted from P759 million to P1.57 billion, not subject to audit. In the face of public fury, the Senate agreed to accounting as the 15th Congress ends. It's coffers were drained anyway.

"We need to unmask those who benefited from this scheme," Senator Jinggoy Estrada now demands. "The Senate" should investigate this scam."

Hold it right there, senator. Estrada's pork barrel was dissipated. Like it not, Jinggoy's role is under question. And the first thing to do is dispel the slightest doubt. That demands Estrada & Co must inhibit themselves from any Senate probe, lest of all, one called by themselves.

Otherwise, they'll be suspect, prober, judge and acquittal artist rolled into one. Estrada's statement on the need to "unmask those who benefited from this scheme," already implies self absolution. A whitewash is the last thing this country needs from Estrada & Co.

Jinggoy "was linked to payoffs from jueteng operators during the short-lived administration of his father," Inquirer notes. Remember former AFP chief of staff Angelo Reyes who committed suicide? Estrada relished ridiculing Reyes, at public hearings, for receiving pasalubongs from AFP on his retirement.

Jinggoy however slurped unabashed into MOOE kitty that underwrote P1.6 million "Christmas gifts" from Enrile. Estrada and 17 other "friendly" senators didn't return them.

Alas, "the injury we do and the one we suffer are not weighed in the same scales", Aesop says in one of his "Fables." Instead, the bill for such scams will be fobbed on people like Raul the scavenger. Juan L. Mercado



### MAGKASANGGATAYO

**Pangulong Penoy Sinabon Si Mayor!!! Timpuyog/Una—vs- LP!!!  
Konsehal na Land Lover!!!**

**NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO**



**Pangulong Penoy Sinabon Si Mayor-** The One, The Only, The Greatest- Lifetime Mayor of Baguio City Forever and Ever Amen, walng iba kung hindi si Apo Mauricio "Morris" Domogan ay pinaringan, pinatutsada at mistulang sinabon ni Pangulong Penoy. Ayon sa sarit saring opinyon sabi nila na "pinakialaman at binastos daw ni Pangulong Penoy si Mayor Domogan", sabi naman ng iba na "nagsasabi lang naman ng tutuo si Pangulong Penoy". Ano ano nga ba ang nasabi ni Pangulong Penoy sa LP Rally na naganap nuong isang lingo sa athletic bowl? Ayon sa kwento ng aking (TS) or Taga Sulso!, ang pinakamasakit na nasabi ni Pangulong Penoy ay yun "baka kaya ganito daw kasama ang nangyayari sa Baguio (sa kalikasan/lorapsyon etc...) ay dahil daw sa paulit-ulit ninyong binoboto ang kasalukuyan mga opisyalas". Hi! Hi! Hi! Apo Mayor- The One, The Only, The Greatest Mayor For Life—Mayor Domogan SIR, isang tanong lang Apo— **NA KA PAG BANLAW NA BAKAYO SAINYONG NATANGAPNA PAG SASABONAT SAGARANG PATAMA ??? Hi! Hi! Hi!**, Ikaw talaga Pangulong Penoy maldita kah hahhh!!! Alam naman ninyo mga dear readers talagang ganyan ang inyong maririnig kapag nakipagaway kayo o nagalit sa inyo ang isang member of the T \_ \_ \_ \_ S \_ \_ , Hi! Hi! Hi! Pero, kidding aside mga dear readers, mali nga ba ang ginawa ni Pangulong Penoy sa kanyang pagpuna at sa kanyang pagiging brutal sa pag puna sa mga kakulangan, katarantaduhan o karumaldumal ng kasalukuyan lider at Ama ng Siyudad ??? Hindi bat karapatan ni Juan Dela Cruz na pumuna at karapatan din siyempre ng Pangulo ng Pilipinas na siyang Ama ng Bayan na punahin ang mga lokal na lider sa kanilang mga katarantaduhan, kawalanghiyaan, kagagohan at kakulangan kung mayroon man?!? Kaya ikaw, The Great, The One, The Only Mayor for Life Mauricio Domogan, dapat kasi ay huwag ka ng tumakbo at maging king maker ka na lang, ikaw rin baka matulad ka sa mga lideratong nagpumilit na tumagal sa poder katulad ni Saddam Hussein, Hosni Mubarak, Ferdinand Marcos, Moamar Khadafy at iba pa., na puros na lintik!!! Pero alam mo Apo Mayor, hindi pa huli ang lahat para ma iwasan mo ang isang napakasakit na pagkatalo, puwede ka pa mag back-out para sikat ka, hindi ka na rin gagastos sa darating na halalan at pinaka mahalaga ay maging isang tunay na Lider ka na hahangaan ng mga darating na henerasyon and history will certainly vindicate you from all the B \_ \_ \_ S \_ \_ \_ that you have done. Suggestion lang naman Apo, o ano pa inanatay mo **RESIGN AND GIVE WAY TO OTHERS WHILE YOU ARE AHEAD!!!**

####

**Timpuyog/Una—vs- LP-** Saan kayo pumupusta mga dear readers, kaninong kampo kaya ang mag dodomina sa darating na halalan , oposisyon -UNA kaya o administrasyon -LP ? Sa eleksyon ng mga Senador UNA kaya o LP ? Dito sa lokal na eleksyon sino kaya ang magwawagi si Domogs kaya o si Joemol ! Para Tongressman este Congressman sino kaya si Mark "Chekwa" Go, si Bernie "Bulldozer" Vergara o si Nicasio "**Land Lover/Squatter Protector**" Aliping, kaya ang lalabas. Kung sabagay, para sa akin kahit sino na ang maging tongressman este congressman huwag lang si **Land Lover and Squatter Protector**. Hi! Hi! Hi! Ngunit para Mayor panahon na para sa isang tunay sa Ibaloi Son, isang tunay na nagmamahal sa masa , sa maralita at sa dukha, isang simpleng tao na hindi lang panay pangako at OPM (Oh Promise Me) ang inyong maririnig. It's time for **JOEMOL** , the man who may still become the Greatest Mayor Baguio will ever have. At sa mga Konsehal na tumatakbo, ay nako nakakasakit ng ulo isipin ang dami sa kanila na hindi dapat maging Tongsehal este Konsehal, marami sa kanila ang puros pambababae, puros panggagantso ng mga kliente at kailyan ang kanilan pinaggagawa, puros pagsusugal at puros under the table deals ang kanilang ginagawa (lang grabbers, swindlers, estafadors etc...) . Abangan sa mga darating na isyu ng **Pahayagang Palaban** kung saan inyong mababasa ang baho ng mga konsehal na dapat lang na ibasura!!!

## KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

*"Land distribution a weakening process"*

BY: BATAS MAURICIO



**LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS:** "... Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good..." (1 Peter 2:2-3, the Holy Bible).

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**"LAND DISTRIBUTION IS A WEAKENING PROCESS":** Here are some reactions to our column "Real agrarian reform needed in RP". From reader Rod Nava: "So true, the problem with our system is that every concept we are implementing lacks adequate planning and risk assessment. Feasibility studies if any are not adequate too. It is a tried knowledge that in union there is strength, therefore, land distribution is a disintegrating, weakening process."

"A ten hectare land tilled by one man financially capable of shouldering the cost can produce much, much more than ten men tilling one hectare each who are not financially capable of shouldering the cost. These land will turn out to be less productive if not left idle for some time..."

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**"AGRARIAN REFORM TO STOP MINDANAO WAR":** From reader Florante Espinosa Dollaga Sr.: "This is the way for the Philippines to stop the war in Mindanao..."

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**"AGRARIAN REFORM IS MISGUIDED":** From reader Kristian Ligsay Jensen: "The whole concept of agrarian reform is somewhat misguided. Nothing guarantees better production than a larger economy of scale. Larger commercial farms are more efficient than small subsistence farms. That's just the unfortunate reality and can be seen all over the world."

"What the rural poor need are jobs in the provinces where they live and not necessarily land. Nothing guarantees job creation faster than foreign direct investment. Unfortunately, we have a Constitution that discourages foreign investment through its economic protectionist provisions limiting foreign ownership to max 40%."

"Furthermore, the Constitution provides for a unitary state concentrating job opportunities in the capital rather than devolving it to the provinces and regions. So rather than insisting on agrarian reform that so obviously has not worked (and never has for many decades), what we need to do is to correct the Constitution. It will provide for job opportunities for the rural poor in the provinces."

"The 1987 Constitution is flawed! We have no choice but to correct the Constitution... NOW!!! Correct it by: 1) ECONOMIC LIBERALIZATION—creates jobs by attracting multinational corporations by removing anti-foreign direct investment restrictions."

"2) EVOLVING FEDERALISM—empowers the regions & decongests the Capital. 3) PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM—sets up a superior, more accountable, & more stable government..."

**"LAND REFORM WITHOUT TIMETABLE IS JUNK":** Nonoy Oplas, cited by Ruel Chavez: "... I countered that land reform with no timetable is junk. Land reform in the Philippines was first initiated by the government in the 60s. Then a 'new' land reform was implemented in the early 70s during the Martial Law period. Then another 'new' land reform was implemented in 1988 when the new government took over from the dictatorship that ruled the country for 20 years..."

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**REACTIONS?** Please call me at 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193, 0922 833 43 96. Email: [batasmauricio@yahoo.com](mailto:batasmauricio@yahoo.com), [mmauriciojr111@gmail.com](mailto:mmauriciojr111@gmail.com).

## ADVOCACY MINDANOW

*GOODBYE, "MR LITTLE PRESIDENT"*

BY: JESUS DUREZA



**BUTUAN CITY —** I'm back visiting Butuan City with former **PRESIDENT RAMOS** for this Sunday's burial of an eminent political leader in Northern Mindanao, **EDELMIRO AMANTE**. He was a friend and a colleague in Congress representing **AGUSAN**. For a while, he was "**Little President**" when he served as Executive Secretary (ES) of President **FVR**.

I fondly remember **EDEL** and that title, "**Little President**". When I was **Press Secretary** of **PRESIDENT GMA**, **ES ED ERMITA** left for an official trip abroad and I was designated **Acting ES** for a few days. **EDEL** suddenly dropped by in my office in **Malacanang** and told me: "Jess, we can share the same inscriptions in our epitaphs when we die: Former 'Little Presidents of the Republic'". We had a good laugh. After coffee, he left. It was only then that I realized that he came to see me just to tell me that.

A few days ago, I got a call from **Ms. MAE GAFFUD**, **FVR**'s "girl Friday" informing me of the Boss' Butuan trip during **DEL'S** burial and asked if I could join him. But of course! I was glad I had the chance to pay my last respects to friend.

During our congressional stint, he was our favorite "**Very Reverend Edel**". He would render the day's opening prayers in beautiful language, down-to-earth but eloquent and with grace. Whenever he would take the floor to debate, non-attentive congressmen would sit up and take special attention due to his distinctive eloquence and "dignified humor". (At times "corny". hahaha!) He could be intimate and gregarious. But always respectable.

He served his people and country well.

**FVR RECOLLECTIONS —** When President **FVR**, who is celebrating his *nth* (secret!) birthday **March 17**, Sunday for **EDEL**'s burial, he recalled how a former "**barrio tenyente**" rose to become a councilor, delegate to the **1971** Constitutional convention, Assemblyman, Congressman, Presidential Adviser and then "**LITTLE PRESIDENT**" as his Executive Secretary. **Edel** came from a poor family, had to walk many kilometers everyday to go to school.

During his remarks during the burial services, **FVR** called him a literary giant, an exemplar for all to emulate. **Edel** wrote an autobiography that **FVR** said would inspire all, especially those who would make a breakthrough from a disadvantaged position. In **2010**, **Edel** shared is "lyrical" autobiography, "**AGUSAN TO MALACANAN**".

In his usual **FVR** style, he got the thousands of mourners to "celebrate and not mourn" and led everyone in the gymnasium to stand up and on the count of three everyone made a "**Mabuhay Edel**" jump, (an **FVR** trademark remembered with his already famous "**EDSA**" jump).

**FVR** concluded his remarks by telling the **Amante family** and all those present:

"May you receive consolation from the fact that **Edel** not only lived a full and meaningful life, but also did his substantial share in the service of God, country and people. We all wish **Edel** could have lived longer — because he had more to give to the Filipino people and the world".

## PALSIIIT

*"KUAM, BAO... SUKATAM TI PUSTISO..."*

BY: LEONARDO ROSQUETA AGUNOY



**IDI** natupullonan 'toy numo ti biang [ubingtay] pay idi, pinidut ni nanangtayo [Justina Valencia Rosqueta-Agunoy] ti naikkat a ngipentayo, rimmuar iti pagtaengantayo, sana impallangatok iti galva ti ngipentayo a kagiddato ti kunana: "kuam, bao, sukatam ti pustiso..."

Adda ngamin pammati dagiti kas ken ni nanangtayo [old timer] a no kasta ti aramidem iti naikkat a ngipen ti tao, dagusto kano a tumaud iti nasayaat a ngipen [ngata?]. Adda panagduadua iti naganus a panunottayo idi. Ania a bileg/gingginammol ti adda iti bao nga ultimo taraonna, dina pay mapataud? Agapannuray laeng a tedtedda a taraon iti uneg ti pagtaengan ti taraon daytoy. No aguyong, agkaan pay ti papel ken lupot iti uneg ti pagtaengan.

Kadagiti ketdi nakaramanen iti karne ti bao a masarakan iti talon, adu ti agkuna kakaduada a naimas ti karnena. Lapsutanda ti bao a kasla tokak. Ituno, ipiritto wenna lutuenda a kas adobo ti karne ti bao. No dimo pay naramanan, nalabit, pampanunotem pay laeng ti agsida wenna agpulotan, agbalukniten ti rusokmo!

Adda daydi kanito a naramanantayo ti karne ti bao iti kaunasan. Naimas ti kuna dagiti kakaduatayo a tabasero. Rinamanantayo met nga agpayso. Saan met a nagbaluknit ti rusoktayo. Ngem, ditayo sinunsunotan ti nagpulotan wenna nagsida ti karne ti bao...

Rakurak dagiti adda iti benneg ti salun-at, ad-adda a mapaarnuay ti sakit ti tao a leptospirosis iti panawen ti panagtutudo wenna kas koma no agbagbagyo. Adu ngamin a danum ti agkakamang. Ket, adda latta gundaway a ditayo maaludan ti uminum ti nalaakan gayam iti isbo ti bao! Daytan no agsakittayon gapu iti leptospirosis, irugitayo metten ti kaarigna ti agtakder iti asideg ti rengngat ti daga tapno iregregtayon ti kuartatayo iti wangawangan ti rengngat! Ti kas-angna, nalabit, addatayo pay iti ngarab ti agdadata a peggad, wen, agpeggad ti salun-at ti agbalin a biktima!

Subliantayo daydiay naikkat a ngipen. Adda ngamin kanito a panagsukto ti ngipen ti tao aglalo kadagiti ubbing. No pampanunoten, kasla awan ti kanito nga agsukto dagiti ngipen. Malaksid laeng ti ngipen ti ubing nga agribrib, agrukapi wenna agrukop ket daytoy ti lumtuadan ti agkarasakit a ngipen. Sakit ti ngipen a di mabalin nga ablonen!

Banagna, adda naikeddeng a gundaway a panangparapat ti adda rukabna a ngipentayo babaen ti panangannong ti dentista! Kuarta latta, kakabsat. Nangina met ti pagpagabot iti ngipen! Ngem, an-anuentayo ti ngipen a mangparparigat kadatayo? No madama ti panagsakitna, kaarigna agburiritayo ti sakitna. Kaskasdi a di maiturturog ti sakitna!

Malagiptayo ti public service ti sigud a public official iti maysa nga ili. Dentist ti lakay ni Apo Public Servant. Tapno makatulong kadagiti kakailianna ken makaallukoy iti adu a butos, indiaya ti lakayna ti libre a panagparutna iti ngipen! Dayta, asino ti di maragsakan?

Daytoyen ti makapudno a sao ti dentist kadagiti kakailianda nga agpagabot iti ngipenda: "GABUTEK DAGITINGIPENYO, NGEMIBUTOSYONIBAKETKO."

Paangaw man wenna saan, panawen ti basingkawel, apay, ania koma ti dakesna no iparato ti tao ti agkampania?

"Kuam, bao... sukatam ti pustiso..." "Tay kunatayon, narigat a patien a pumudno daytoy. Maysa a superstitious belief a masasao a kas met ti kari dagiti mannagikari a politicotayo a dida maipatpungpal ti naruay nga agkakasayaat a karida iti panawen ti panagkakampania."

Kari nga intayab ti kali! Madagdagullit dagiti agkakasayaat a kari. Kaarigna ti appan a masansan a maigay-at kadagiti umili. Ta asino nga umili ti di agar-arapaap iti panagdur-as ti biag dagiti umili? Ti panagdur-as ti ili, provincia, kasta met iti ciudad ken pagilian?

Uray adda pay kabulbulonna a panagduadua ti kinapudno wenna ti kinadalus ti kinatao ti politico, kapilitan a simpunentayo latta ti arapaap babaen **Cont. on page 9**

## Communications & Civic Action Groups Prepare for Sumvac 2013

BAGUIO CITY - This city, the summer capital of the Philippines will be expecting influx of thousands of domestic and foreign tourists this coming Holy Week. In order to sustain the city of pines, being one of the summer best destination, the Committee on Communications Groups, Peace, Security and Traffic Assistance chaired by PS/Supt. Jesus Cambay Jr. and co-chaired by Coun. Edison Bilog held a meeting with the different communications and civic action group, BCPO, and other concerned agencies at the Sangguniang Panlungsod Session Hall last Mar. 19.

City Administrator Atty. Carlos Canilao recognized the support of the different groups and hoped for a harmonious teamwork in order to have a peaceful observance of holy week.

There are about 68 communication and civic action groups who volunteered to support the city in order to have an organized and peaceful commemoration of holy week in this mountain resort.

Coun. Bilog said that identification cards will be issued to the different communications and civic action groups for proper identification.

The BCPO will be establishing police/motorists assistance centers and will be deploying police personnel on all tourist spots in the city.

All the different groups will be given kits containing Baguio tourism maps, emergency hotlines, monitoring report, in case of any significant incidents and areas of responsibilities.

Also, general policies and guidelines for operating units will be issued to all operatives for the summer vacation activities in Baguio 2013 to be strictly implemented and properly observed by the all the different communications/civic action groups.

Coun. Bilog emphasized the importance of coordination and knowing the specific roles of the different communications and civic action groups.

The groups are required to submit After Operation Report daily to the CDRMC and BCPO-Operations Unit. More importantly, any significant incident shall be relayed without delay to the Tactical Operation Center (TOC), BCPO or the CDRMMC or to the Office of the Committee co-chairperson, Coun. Bilog.

The following shall be considered as significant incidents:

- \* Incidents involving prominent personalities
- \* Incidents involving national security
- \* Land mishaps
- \* Traffic incidents involving loss of life and multiple injuries

\* Any other incident which needs police assistance

Some groups will already commence its operations this March 23./Jho Arranz/PIO/Baguio

## DOST Turns Over Digital Library to CAR Provinces

L A MARIA ROWENA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Department of Science and Technology turned over digital libraries to three provinces in the Cordillera Region last week.

DOST-CAR Assistant Regional Director

Madarang and Science and Technology Information representative Annie Lyn Bacani signed a memorandum of agreement and turned over three Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Stations, or STARBOOKS to the provinces of Kalinga, Apayao and Abra represented by their respective science and technology officers at the DOST-CAR Regional Office.

Madarang Cont. on page 9

## City Employees Observe Earth Hour

BAGUIO CITY - In support with the Memorandum Circular No. 2013-11 of the Department of the Interior and Local Government Secretary Mar Roxas regarding the Earth Hour 2013 Campaign on March 23, Mayor Mauricio Domogan issued Memorandum No. 046-2013 directing all city government of Baguio employees to actively participate in the celebration of Earth Hour by switching off majority of the lights in their homes, offices, facilities among others for at least one hour starting from 8:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. or beyond on the said date.

The Earth Hour aims to create awareness of people taking responsibility towards a sustainable future by turning the lights off.

This is a yearly event which has led to the significant power saving and most especially, greater view for meaningful and sustained actions against climate change.

In line with the Baguio's observance of the Earth Hour on Mar. 23, the Baguio City jail inmates will likewise participate in this activity which has already been a tradition to them.

DILG Memorandum states that "the Philippines unites with the rest of the world in celebrating the Earth Month every April each year, as it takes a stand on various environmental issues and taking action for the environment to ensure a sustainable future". The city never fails to take part on the said yearly activity./jho Arranz/PIO-Baguio

## VP Binay Reiterates Importance of Effective CLUP in local Development

BAGUIO CITY - The Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board - Northern Luzon Region (HLURB-NLR) headed by Regional Officer Teresita Galacgac, on Sunday hosted in this city the awarding ceremony for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) Zero Backlog Project in Northern Luzon with Vice President Jejomar Binay as the guest of honor.

Binay, chairman of the HLURB and the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), in his keynote address reiterated to the different local chief executives and development planning officers in regions I, II and Cordillera, the importance of a CLUP and a zoning ordinance in their respective localities.

Binay stressed that crafting a CLUP, aside from it being mandated under the Local Government Code, provides the roadmap of every LGU to development through the effective use of land in agriculture, business and both local and foreign investments.

He pointed out that in crafting a CLUP, LGUs need to incorporate agriculture or food sustainability and environmental protection as well as socialized housing and the related basic social services and facilities.

Binay also stressed the need to involve all sectors or local stakeholders in the formulation of a CLUP as the government alone cannot decide for what the people need and want.

For the effective use and implementation of CLUP, he pointed out the need for the local - city/municipal councils to enact a zoning resolution. Without a zoning resolution, it defeats the purpose of a CLUP, he said.

Binay disclosed that giving training on CLUP formulation and updating is a priority project of HLURB. He reported that in just one year, 680 out of the 1,132 or 60 percent of LGUs that have no CLUP or have outdated CLUP, has already completed the different training modules of HLURB, and 551 of them have already formulated their CLUP.

The housing czar also challenged the 172 LGUs in Northern Luzon that have finished their training that by the end of this year, they all have already effective and successfully implemented CLUP and zoning ordinances./C.Dar/PIA

## BMV-MGD Beneficiaries Get Incentives

BAGUIO CITY - Out of the 972 beneficiaries of the Bernardo M. Vergara-Mauricio G. Domogan Education Financial Assistant Program, 896 submitted the requirements in order to qualify in receiving the Php7,000.00 incentive allowance for this semester last Sunday, Mar. 17 at the Baguio Convention Center.

Aside from the regular seven thousand allowance, 54 scholars were given additional cash incentives of Php3,000.00 each for their exemplary performance in school having garnered an average score of 90% and up.

Scholars who are candidates for graduation this semester will also be given additional Php1,000.00 incentives by June upon submission of their respective certificates of graduation.

Mayor Domogan said that "the youth is the hope of the future" and the BMV-MGD EFAP has always been helping thousands of impoverished deserving students for years. It is with this program that thousands of deserving students are given the chance and opportunity to finish schooling and pursue their dreams and ambitions.

He congratulated all the students for their determination in prioritizing their studies which would eventually be of great help to their respective families and the country as a whole. He expressed his admiration to students who really want to help themselves and their parents in order to alleviate hardships in life and further encouraged them to continue their undertakings.

The mayor disclosed that for the educational scholarships for the youth, the annual budget is 18M and there are scholars from the NCIP, TESDA and DOLE. In as much as the program wants to increase the number of beneficiaries, there is only limited budget.

Congressman Bernardo Vergara was proud to say that entire the Philippines, it is the BMV-MGD EFAP who has a large sum of financial assistance extended to scholars.

Education, being one of the big concern of the city, the congressman revealed that 269 plantilla items or permanent positions were approved for the casual teachers to fill up. A total of 54 M has been allotted for the construction of classrooms and public school buildings. Another 12M to subsidize school bound programs.

He added that 1M budget was allotted to poor students and dropped outs under the Alternative Learning System (ALS)./Jho Arranz/PIO-Baguio

## GSIS now Accepting College Scholarship Nominees for SY 2013-2014

BAGUIO CITY - The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) is calling all active members to start submitting their nominees for the GSIS Scholarship Program (GSP) for academic year 2013-2014.

Application period is from March 12-April 30, 2013. Pursuant to the revised GSP Policy and Procedural Guidelines (PPG) No. 224-13, all active GSIS members with premium payments for the last six months may nominate scholars.

The GSIS revised its College Scholarship Program to allow low-income members to send their children to colleges and universities that provide quality education.

Unlike in the past scholarship programs, the selection of scholars will no longer be done through an electronic raffle.

The scholar of the program will be entitled to the scholarship nominees from members with a salary grade of 24 or below, or its equivalent.

Under the new guidelines, the nominee of a parent-member who has the lowest salary grades will be given priority in the scholarship grant. The nominee must be a child of the member and an incoming freshman accepted in the schools identified by the pension fund.

The scholar of the program will be entitled to the scholarship nominees from members with a salary grade of 24 or below, or its equivalent. Cont. on page 9

## Six Individuals Eyed as LSV

**2013** SIX LUCKY individuals coming from the other parts of the country are set to experience the hospitality of the members of the Baguio Correspondents and Broadcasters Club for its annual Lucky Summer Visitor program as part of the Summer Vacation in Baguio 2013.

A four day red carpet treatment awaits the chosen Lucky Summer Visitors on Holy Thursday, March 28 kicking off their busy schedule in a packed tour and adventure of the summer capital, nearby La Trinidad, Tuba, and Itogon, Benguet.

"We have not set any guidelines or criteria on who will be chosen as this year's lucky visitors as long as they are first timers," said BCBC incoming president Roderick Osis of the event in partnership with the City Government of Baguio, Municipality of Tuba, Municipality of La Trinidad, and the province of Benguet.

After being handpicked by the selection committee, the LSV's will have their first courtesy call at the barangay Twins Peaks in Tuba, Benguet where they get to see a glimpse of the Ibaloi Culture in a simple cultural program.

A brief courtesy calls with Baguio Mayor Mauricio Domogan, La Trinidad Mayor Greg Abalos, and Benguet Gov. Nestor Fongwan will also cover some of their activities during their four day stay with Azalea residence as their official home.

Tours for the LSV's include a glimpse at the Philippine Military Academy, Balatoc Mines Tour, Strawberry Picking at the BSU organic Farm, the zip line and ATV experience at Pugo Adventure in Pugo La Union of the event backed by Chevron Philippines, Philippine Mining Safety and Environment Association, Manila North Tollways Corporation and Smart Telecommunications.

A one day seminar for BCBC members, upcoming journalists, and mining information officers will also be part of the annual Lucky Summer Visitors with topics ranging from media ethics, press conference organization and press release writing as Cordillera Transport Bus Operators Inc., University of Baguio, Mayor Mauricio Domogan, Cong. Bernardo Vergara, Mountain Province Rep. Maximo Dalog, Chanum Foundation has also pitched in their support in the weeklong event.

Bishop Carlito Cenzon is expected to officiate the Holy Mass on March 27 for members, supporters, family and friends of the BCBC as they reflect on the upcoming Holy Week followed by the formal turnover of leadership and induction of new members with Goshen Land, National Grid Corporation of the Philippines, Sizzling Plate, Pugo Adventures, Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau - Cordillera, DOTC-LTO Cordillera, Bapamcom, Baguio Country Club, and Baguio City Police Office supporting./BCBC Release

## Preparations for 2nd Cordillera Ethnic Food Festival Underway

**L**A TION of Benguet **TRINIDAD**, (FFB), the Benguet - The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) Cordillera Administrative Region has convened the steering committee to prepare activities for the second staging of the Cordillera ethnic food festival. Located in Puguig, La Trinidad.

Organized by the PCCI and the Farmers Federa-

said the event aims to provide a venue for a gathering of the different ethno-linguistic groups and tribes coming from the six provinces of CAR.

Highlights of the festival include a cook fest to showcase the different ethnic and exotic foods in the region, cultural presentations by representatives from the six

**Cont. on page 9**

## Baguio local Church, Red Cross Fun Run set on April 6

BAGUIO CITY - Marathon, fun run and family walk is fast becoming a trend here in the Summer Capital with the cool breeze and cozy mountain terrain. Aside from being good to a person's health, such activities are also helping various causes.

On April 6, local community church New Covenant Bible Fellowship (NCBF), in partnership with Philippine Red Cross (PRC)- Baguio will spearhead a marathon for a cause dubbed as "Make Your Mark" with four run categories - 3K (kilometer), 5K, 10K and a children category for 12 years old and below.

NCBF senior pastor Ricardo Bagalawis Jr. disclosed that aside from PRC-Baguio as beneficiary, the activity will also benefit the children of the church as they hope to raise funds for the establishment of a shed for them where they can do their activity protected from the sun and the occasional rain.

Bagalawis assured that everything is set for the run including the registration kit for the runners, which includes t-shirt, race route map and bib (race number).

The run will start and finish at the Burnham Park, Lake Drive and with the turning point for the 3K, 5K and 10K set at the Kubong Sawali in Military Cut Off, Forest Inn at the entrance part of Loakan Road and Voice of America along Loakan Road, respectively.

Designated registration areas are Honeybugs Internet Café at 100 Lower Gen. Luna Rd. University of Cordilleras and the PRC-Baguio along Harrison Road with registration fee of P200 - P3K, P300 - 5K and P400 - 10K.

A registration fee of P50 is also set for the children's category but it does not include a singlet.

Bagalawis invites all seasoned runners, health buffs, and all people who are fit to run to come and join the fun run. Aside from helping the cause, all runners will receive a finisher's certificate. Cash prizes and medals will also be given to top local finishers. /JDP/CCD and Mark Tiongco

## 12 Heritage Sites In Ifugao to be Rehabilitated

**MAYOYAO**, Ifugao - Twelve heritages sites in the province are set to be rehabilitated through a P5 million funding from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The rehabilitation will include the restoration of damaged and collapsed walls of the rice terraces in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites in the province.

The fund

Mayoyao - P1.4 M, Hungduan - P1M and Kiangnan - P600, 000.

Governor Eugene Balitang said that the Ifugao Culture heritage Office (ICHO) of the provincial government had asked the help of UNESCO NatCom to seek and mobilize resources for the rehabilitation of the heritage rice terraces clusters damaged by typhoons in October 2011.

"The lifting of the Ifugao

## SME Academy for Entrepreneurs Brings Advocacy to Benguet Town

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet - The Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Academy brought to this town its lecture series of teaching entrepreneurs to keep their business grow and to have successful family business.

The activity attended by entrepreneurs of this town is in cooperation with the Department of Trade and Industry and the town's local government unit as part of the Strawberry Festival celebration this month.

Resource speakers were from the PlantersBank, the country's leading bank for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

Plantersbank Executive Vice President Ma. Agnes Angeles who delivered a lecture on Financial Management 101 for SMEs stressed their advocacy on making SME businesses grow and the way to successful SME family businesses.

Angeles said the decision to grow will define whether the business will be passed on to the children or not otherwise "if we die, we die with our business." Children need to carry on with our legacy, she added.

Among the learnings in Financial Management 101 include the basic financial statement, principles in managing funds and preparing personal vis-à-vis business cash budget.

Angeles stressed the need for entrepreneurs to have a grasp of basic financial statement and do auditing. This will give the entrepreneur the idea in determining whether the business funds are growing or not.

In sustaining business, Angeles shared there should be separate wallet for personal and business. Even if the business is in good standing, more often it is the personal cash budget that befalls the business, she added. In business, credit is also cautioned as delays in payment will eventually affect the business budget.

Some additional principles Angeles shared which holds true in business are: management in small things holds true in management of big things, good business health creates wealth, and to give fixed allowance to oneself.

Another tip Angeles shared to keep the business moving is that there should be at least one month budget for purchase and two months cash budget for operating expenses.

Seeing great business potential in the area, Angeles encouraged local entrepreneurs to do business instead of others who are not from the area. She assured that the SME Academy could extend help.

PlantersBank Assistant Vice President Jeng San Andres also presented SME financing windows options on how to access credit and the credit facilities that banks offer./JDP/SCA/PIA CAR, Benguet

## Comelec Reminds Media Practitioners on Coverage Accreditation for the May 12 Election

**BAGUIO** CITY - The Commission on Election - Cordillera Regional Office reminds local media practitioners who will cover the May 12 midterm election to file for Comelec accreditation so they can be given access to polling centers. Comelec Regional Director Jose Nick Mendros, in coordination with the Philippine Information Agency, held a briefing here at the PIA Regional Office to orient the media on their role and participation for the May election. In the said forum, Mendros disclosed that media practitioners will not be allowed or cannot demand access to the polling centers. **Cont. on page 10**

## MGD Claims...

from page 1

Park but countered that it did not happen overnight.

'Alam ninyo, nung bumalik tayo as mayor, nilagyan natin ng four million budget to start the rehabilitation of Mines View Park, in short meron tayong concern,' he stressed.

Domogan also cited the urgent need for a relocation site for vendors who are presently occupying the stalls within the parks vicinity which he said was of equal importance and an off-shoot to the 51 million four storey Mines View Multi-purpose building that is expected to house 200 vendors.

'Hindi naman pwedeng isimula yung rehabilitation ng Mines View Park kung hindi natin na-alis at narelocate yung mge vendors,' he said.

'The only problem now which caused the delay for them(vendors) to move-in is the rentals which will be paid, but we will do that if all the documents are here,' he said.

The proposed passage of the ordinance prescribing the rates for the Mines View Multi-purpose building has been pending with the city council until recently, the decision to fix the rental rates was passed to the mayor.

Domogan also cited accomplishments on the environment stating that more than thirty thousand trees have already been planted in 2012 in partnership with the different barangays and civic organizations as part of the city's re-greening program.

The mayor also mentioned efforts of the city in improving air quality thru the implementation of the smoke belching law and the revival of rivers in the city.

'Of course we are not perfect, marami tayong kulang but we are doing everything that we can,' he said.

'It is just very unfortunate that some candidates na nag-file nang Kandidatura nila go to the extent of misleading people just to get the votes, eto yung dapat na tayong taga Baguio, we should not allow it to happen, ka-awa-awa naman tayo kung ganito ang mangyari sa ating lungsod,' he stressed./paul rillorta

## SWAP...

from page 2

dependent on the presence of water; the Baguio Water District was also concerned with providing a steady supply. That would check the practice of storing water in containers where mosquitoes breed, it was suggested.

The forum ended with each sector declaring commitment; small efforts which could mean much to the endeavor. As the dengue-control program could run for months up to a few years, more meetings would be scheduled, was promised./juliegfianza

## Mayor Denies...

from page 2

have respiratory problems,' he said.

Domogan also clarified that the smoke belching law is not being used as a front in raising funds.

'It is not true na ginagawa natin yan, it is not the mayor that fixes the penalty na binabayaran, batas yung nagsasabi na ganito ang babayaran ng mahuhuli sa talagang violation ng smoke belching law natin,' he stressed.

Meantime, a public hearing regarding the implementation of the smoke belching law was held at the Sangunian Panglungsod Session Hall last Thursday (March 21).

Public Utilities, Transportation and Traffic Legislation Committee Chair and Councilor Nicasio Aliping spearheaded the public consultation with Councilors Edison Bilog, Councilor Peter Fianza, DENR EMB, RITMT representatives.

The hearing was attended by the different Jeepney and Taxi operators and drivers plying the city streets.

Among the recommendations are a one-month after check-up leeway for apprehended vehicles to be flagged again to give them time to recoup; inclusion of a warning first policy before apprehension and the creation of a technical working group to check on the effectiveness and accuracy of private and government smoke testing machines.

Aliping said, 'the public consultation is aimed at soliciting favorable consideration to all the parties which could lead to a 'win-win solution to all concerned and would support the implementation of the ordinance at the same time addressing the clamor of the public.'

Although there is a slight debate on technical matters mostly on the way vehicles are being tested, all parties adhere to the principle of RA 8749 that 'polluters must pay'./paul rillorta

## Public Hearing...

from page 2

they said.

Some said that PUVs traversing their route when caught should be allowed to deliver their passengers and submit to further testing at a later time. "It is very costly to be caught, as we have to pay the fines, after being assured by the PETS of not being a smoke-belcher," the operators and drivers collectively claimed.

PUVs are required to pass the smoke emission test before operating.

There was however an assertion of a capability study done over the past years that the fuel used in PUVs is the culprit and that the machines' readings differ in a very minimal state. A computer print-out should be given by the PETS as with the RITMT for detailed comparison, it was suggested.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan earlier maintained that the city's testing machines are in order, yet the procedure in testing should be looked into. He has also ordered the conduct of voluntary smoke emission tests in the city for PUVs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and issuance of Certification of Voluntary Testing (CVT) upon passing safe emission levels. He also ordered the RITMT-CAMU personnel to meticulously stick to the procedures of smoke testing.

Accordingly, operators who submit voluntarily to testing shall be exempt from side testing for a month for diesel vehicles and two months for gasoline-fed vehicles.

During the public hearing, PUV Operators and drivers officer Junie Itliong proposed that the period of exemption be extended to two and three months.

This was noted and shall form part of the thorough study for amendments of the ordinance, Councilor Fianza said.

We shall look at the observed needs of the operators and drivers, as well as the general public in keeping the air we breathe as non-toxic, he ended./juliegfianza

## Balili River...

from page 3

suant to the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004

With the designation, a governing board was recently organized to oversee and give directions on rehabilitation efforts of the water quality of the river system.

The Balili River system was categorized as Class A in 1975 but its waters deteriorated through the years due to pollution, urbanization, and human activities.

The governing board is chaired by Environment and Management Bureau (EMB)-DENR-Cordillera Regional Technical with members composed of representatives from the Office of the Governor of Benguet, Cordillera Regional Development Council, mayors and Liga ng mga Punong Barangay presidents of Baguio City, La Trinidad and Sablan, concerned regional directors, representatives from business sector, water utility, duly registered non-government organizations involved in environmental concerns, and the academe, the Balili River System Revitalization Coalition and Benguet State University.

Among the functions of the governing board are to formulate strategies, monitor and facilitate regulations, coordinate information dissemination activities, undertake projects and complementary interventions, formulate rules based on applicable and pertinent laws, policies, rules and regulations.

During the organizational meeting last March 13, it was agreed that Balili River System Revitalization Coalition (BRSRC) will constitute the technical working group of the governing board.

The BRSRC composed of multisectoral groups was organized in July 2011 to harmonize efforts in rehabilitating the river system. The coalition paved the way for the designation of the Balili River as WQMA.

Meanwhile, Benguet Governor Nestor Fongwan during the meeting underscored the need to act on commitments towards rehabilitating the Balili river as there were initiatives in the past which were not acted upon.

Also presented during the governing board organizational meeting were the provisions of DAO 2013-05, history of Balili river, the BRSRC undertakings since 2011 anchored on the key result area committees on enhanced data, improved governance, infrastructure and vegetation, heightened awareness, and reduced dumping of wastes./JDP/SCA-PIA CAR,Benguet

## RESEARCH & STATISTICS

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We believe that the Golden Rule applies to animals, too. We don't accept the prevailing notion that "people come first" or that "people are more important than animals." Animals feel pain and suffer just as we do, and it is almost always humans making animals suffer and not the other way around. Yet in spite of how cruelly people behave towards animals - not to mention human cruelty to other humans- we are supposed to believe that humans are superior to other animals. If people want to fancy themselves as being of greater moral worth than the other creatures on this earth, we should begin behaving better than they do, and not worse. Let's start treating everyone as we would like to be treated ourselves.

- Public Service Message from Linis Gobyerno www.linisgobyerno.org

REPUBLIC OF  
THE PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL  
TRIAL COURT  
FIRST JUDICIAL  
REGION  
BRANCH 6,  
BAGUIO CITY

IN THE MATTER  
OF CHANGE OF  
NAME AND COR-  
RECTION OF EN-  
TRY IN THE CER-  
TIFICATE OF LIVE  
BIRTH OF MICAH  
GAYLE ARSIT  
PATAYAN,

MICAH GAYLE  
ARSIT PATAYAN,  
As represented by  
her Attorney-in-  
fact CANUTA  
B A L A T A N G  
ARSIT,

*Petitioner,*

-versus-

MARCIAL DIZA  
PATAYAN,  
THE LOCAL CIVIL  
REGISTRAR OF  
BAGUIO CITY and  
the NATIONAL  
STATISTICS OF-  
FICE,

Respondents,

SPL. PROC CASE  
NO. 2250-R

X——X

NOTICE OF  
INITIAL HEAR-  
ING

In a verified pe-  
tition, petitioner,  
through counsel,  
alleged among oth-  
ers that in her Cer-  
tificate of Live  
Birth, an entry was  
made in the Date  
and Place of Mar-  
riage of her parents  
as May 14, 2007 in  
Kabugao, Apayao,  
when in truth her  
parents were never  
married.

Petitioner  
prayed that after  
due notice, publica-  
tion and hearing, an  
Order be issued by  
this Court directing  
the Local Civil  
Registrar of Baguio  
City and the Na-  
tional Statistics Of-  
fice to annotate in  
her Certificate of  
Live Birth that the  
Place and Date of

Marriage of her par-  
ents be "Not Appli-  
cable;" her status be  
changed from "Le-  
gitimate" to "Ille-  
gitimate;" and her  
surname be changed  
from "Patayan" to  
"Arsit."

Let the petition  
be set for hearing on  
June 28, 2013 at 8:30  
o'clock in the morn-  
ing at the Regional  
Trial Court, Branch  
6, "Bulwagan Ng  
Katarungan" (Justi-  
ce Hall), Baguio  
City at which date,  
time and place, all  
persons interested  
may show cause why  
the petition should  
not be granted.

Let a copy of  
this Notice of Initial  
Hearing be pub-  
lished in a newspa-  
per of general cir-  
culation in Baguio  
City once a week for  
three (3) consecu-  
tive weeks at the ex-  
pense of the peti-  
tioner.

Let a copy of  
this Notice of Initial  
Hearing be posted in  
four (4) public places  
at the Bulletin  
Boards of the City  
Market, the Post Of-  
fice, the City Hall  
and Regional Trial  
Court, all in Baguio  
City, at the expense  
of the petitioner.

Let also a copy  
of the Petition and  
Notice of Initial  
Hearing be fur-  
nished the Office of  
the Civil Registrar  
of Baguio City, the  
National Statistics  
Office in Quezon  
City, the Office of  
the Solicitor Gen-  
eral in Makati City,  
and the Office of the  
City Prosecutor in  
Baguio City.

Serve a copy of  
this Notice of Initial  
Hearing upon the  
petitioner, her coun-  
sel and her father  
Marcial Diza  
Patayan.

SO ORDERED.

March 4, 2013,  
Baguio City,  
Philippines.

By: (SGD) CECILIA  
CORAZON S.  
DULAY-ARCHOG  
Acting Presiding  
Judge

Publication Dates:  
March 16, 23 and  
30, 2013

**Dads back...**

seems that taxi services are being singled out without clear distinctions..."

The group said even in La Trinidad, the rate being imposed remains to be the old one.

"Imposing the adjusted rate to the local taxi operators while the same is not yet being enforced on taxi operators in Metro Manila and other major cities in the country will not be fair and equal proposition. We believe with all honesty that the same is violative of the equal protection clause guaranteed to us by the Constitution," the petition read.

"The taxi business in Baguio City and the Cordilleras is already saddled with many inequalities and disadvantages vis-à-vis its counterparts in other cities of the country. The most obvious and glaring of this is the fact that the rates or fare in Baguio City are lower compared to the rates in Metro Manila and other cities notwithstanding the costs and prices of fuel oil, MV spare parts and the costs of maintenance is higher due to the mountainous and prohibitive terrain."

The group also said that the tax imposition is unlawful as there was no circular or order issued by the BIR relative to the P550 adjustment and if ever there was one, the same was not published.

The group said the imposition of such a high rate threatens the taxi industry now saddled with many problems including the continuous increases in the prices of fuel, spare parts, professional services and prices of motor vehicles without commensurate increase in fare rates.

"The implementation of the adjusted rate... will only have the paralyzing effect of unjustly and unnecessarily burdening us even more, which is not helping when the taxi industry in Baguio City is presently in actual dire need of help and sympathy from the government," the group said. /A Refuerzo

**SHED - CAR...**

nal grades are duly recorded and submitted to the Registrar together with the final grades of the rest of the students in the prescribed form."

"Hindi pinipigilan ang mga bata na mag exam pero may proseso ang mga paaralan na pinapatupad para makakuha ng special permits para makapag exam" said Santiago. (Students are not being denied to take the exams but the schools have policies to follow for a student to be given special permits for examinations.)

Santiago said that schools in the Cordillera region particularly in Baguio City and La Trinidad are letting students take their examinations even without paying their obligations such as tuition fees and miscellaneous fees through special permits given by the school authorities.

"Schools are even allowing students to get promissory notes or talking to school officials in the administrative or financial division for them to be able to take the exams be it prelims or finals," he added.

Santiago disclosed that the higher education institutions in the region are always abiding with the Commissions' regulation with regards to special permits of students who cannot pay their school obligations on

**from page 3**

time. He added that CHED-CAR has not received any complaint of student being denied to take his examinations due financial constraints.

Last week, a 16-year-old University of the Philippines (UP)-Manila student committed suicide allegedly for being unable to pay her tuition fees in the state-run higher education institution. /JDP/RC-PIA CAR

**National Highways...**

iti intayo latta panangparimat ti nababati pay a namnama.

Panagdur-as ti panagbiag ti pagtunged-an ti tema ti panagkakampania. Kanigid-kanwan ti pamuspusan. Pinniltak... pinniltak. Ti karurugitan ti rupana, isu ngatan ti maabak iti tupadaan ti politica?

"Kuum, bao... sukamat ti pustiso..." narigat a patien a pumudno. Ngem, padasentayo man a buklen daytoy a pammati iti sabali met a kababagasa: "BUTOSANKA, APO POLITICO, TASUPAPAKAMTO TI PROGRESO..."

PAGPAMPANUNOTAN ITA A LAWAS: He who is most slow in making a promise, is the most faithful in the performance of it. — ROUSSEAU.#

**DOST...**

said that the STARBOOKS is a stand-alone, on-site research and information kiosk that provides free access to information, and is highly appropriate for public libraries. It contains thousands of digitized science and technology resources in various formats, text and video or audio placed in specially designed "pods" set in a user-friendly interface.

The STARBOOKS will give information to the students and the community through the access of digitized data stored in the hard disks of the equipment.

What makes the STARBOOKS unique and more useful in the mountainous region is that people can access data needed even without internet connection, she explained.

Bacani said that the STARBOOKS contain 500,000 titles of digitized journals, serial publications, reference materials, annual reports, theses and dissertations, technical and project reports, and directories of DOST-STII's library materials. It also contains over 170 videos from the different DOST agencies such as "Tamang DOSTkarte Livelihood Videos" for aspiring entrepreneurs. The video topics range from food processing to laundry soap manufacturing and other livelihood materials.

According to Madarang, the information kiosks are not only for students but also for the use of the local government units and non-government organizations particularly with the livelihood videos incorporated. The DOSTkarte videos are useful for communities because it contains different instructional videos on livelihood and entrepreneurial skills that could be used by the people.

Madarang added that the province of Kalinga was given the STARBOOKS as part of the pro-poor program of the DOST-CAR.

Last year, the DOST had distributed units to the provinces of Ifugao, Mountain Province and Benguet.

This year, they are encouraging other LGUs and schools to avail of the STARBOOKS digital library by sending proposals or requests to the DOST-CAR regional office. /JDP/RC-PIA CAR

**GSIS...**

tual cost of tuition and miscellaneous fees not exceeding P20,000 and a monthly stipend of P2,000.

The scholar may also opt to take a four- or five-year course but must meet the scholastic requirements set by the school for student retention under the program.

Interested applicants are requested to submit to the nearest GSIS office duly accomplished application forms together with the following: Certificate of employment of the member, and certification from the school that the scholar-designee is accepted as an incoming college freshman for the school year 2013-2014.

GSP application form may be obtained from any GSIS branch office or download it from the GSIS website: [www.gsis.gov.ph/](http://www.gsis.gov.ph/) JDP/MAWC/PIA CAR

**Preparations...**

provinces together with their tribal groups to perform dances, songs, story-telling and chants.

There will also be a trade fair and exhibit to showcase and promote indigenous ethnic and locally produced products, indigenous games exhibition.

Other activities includes a fashion show featuring a farmer's attire contest with modern ethnic touch, barista and bar tending exhibition, One-Town-One Product (OTOP) presentation, concert featuring native songs, kid's fun day, photo contest for amateur photographers.

Foreigners are also invited to come join the said event and showcase their ethnic foods and delicacies.

The co-organizers for the 2nd Cordillera Ethnic Food Festival include the Department of Tourism - Cordillera (DOT-CAR), the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples - Cordillera (NCIP-CAR), Local Government Unit of La Trinidad, Philippine Information Agency (PIA), Benguet State University (BSU), Cooperative Bank of Benguet (CBB), and Michael Cruz from Yasha designs as the event manager.

Different committees have been formed to oversee the preparation for the week-long festival that is expected to draw tourists and visitors to La Trinidad.

Lab-oyan said the 1st Cordillera Ethnic Food Festival was successfully held last April 22-28, 2007. /JDP/MAWC/PIA CAR

**12 Heritage...**

Rice Terraces from the List of World Heritage in Danger does not stop us in our responsibility to maintain our rice terraces. This is our obligation whether we are in the danger list or not. We will always support our farmers in the restoration program," Balitang said.

Earlier this February, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan approved Resolution No. 2013-607 authorizing Balitang to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the UNESCO NatCom for the implementation of the project. /JDP/MBL-PIA CAR, Ifugao

**from page 6**

**from page 7**

## ***PNoy tells PMA Class 2013 to Always Keep Their Integrity Intact in Serving the Country and the People***

FORT DEL PILAR, Baguio City - The 124-strong Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Pudang Kalis (Puso't Dangal ng Lahing Nagkakaisa) Class of 2013 officially joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of the Philippines with Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin declaring their commission as second lieutenants and ensigns during their graduation rites here, Sunday.

President Benigno Aquino III in his keynote address said he is honored to be with the graduates to personally witness and congratulate them on their success given the rigid training and all the personal and family sacrifices they have gone through.

As they start their career as uniformed personnel of the AFP, Aquino encouraged them to always put in their heart and mind that is time to give back their service to their families and to the Filipino people.

As future leaders of the country, he reminded them of the great responsibility that goes with the career they have chosen. He advised them to always set aside self interest and that when a time come that they will face a crossroad, wherein there is a need to decide which is the right path to take, they should always consider what is good or beneficial to the Filipino people, especially to the marginalized who need their support most.

PMA Superintendent Lt. Gen. Irineo Espino, in his welcome remarks, also reminded the graduates of the PMA virtues - courage, integrity and loyalty, that the institution has imbibed on them to be their guide in their works and in carrying out bigger responsibilities.

He advised them to keep an unblem-

## **KASC Partners with Korean Company in Soy Beans Production**

TABUK CITY, Kalinga - The Kalinga Apayao State College (KASC) has partnered with the Dagam Corporation of South Korea for soya beans production in the province.

The project is handled by KASC's Research Department that is now conducting a study on soya beans farming in prospect farm sites in the province.

As initial step, KASC President Eduardo Bagtang informed that while the state college has developed its own experimental area, the project was offered to the different municipalities to cope with Dagam's production target of 30 tons per year.

At this stage, KASC Research Department is doing agricultural tests in various areas to find the most conducive to the project since Dagam has preferred the use of organic technology.

Elaborating on the rationale of the project, Bagtang said it was offered to KASC by Dagam Corporation, a company which is into soya beans production in Korea. The company is looking for production partners in other places to cope with Korea's high demand for the farm product.

Bagtang sees the soya beans industry as potential source of income to farmers in the province especially with the condition set by Dagam to buy even the farm wastes from soya beans. After harvest, Dagam would buy whatever is left from the soya plant for feeding to cattle in Korea.

Under the project, Dagam is providing the soya beans certified seeds variety that is harvestable in 45-day period./JDP/LL- PIA CAR, Kalinga

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**ROLAND L. BAGBAGEN**

**Applicants**

**Case No:2002 -BC-353**

### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: LA TRINIDAD - MOTORPOOL WANGAL via BUYAGAN and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant's shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant's and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 15th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**FEDERICO BULLAY**

**Applicants**

**Case No:2005-BENG-CAR-1340**

### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - SAN CARLOS HEIGHTS and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

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WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 15th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

ished reputation and to always serve the country and the Filipino people, nothing else.

The 124-strong PMA Pudang Kalis

Class of 2013 is composed of 105 male and 19 female, 67 of them will serve the Army, 24 will go to the Air Force and 33 to the Philippine Navy./ CCD/PIA CAR

Comelec...

from page 7

ing centers without a Comelec- issued media identification card.

Application form can be downloaded at the Comelec website at [www.comelec.gov.ph](http://www.comelec.gov.ph) and must be submitted personally to the city election officer or provincial election supervisor along with two colored ID pictures not later than April 15, he explained.

Mendros stressed that the Comelec issued ID must be worn prominently and that the bearer of such ID should immediately identify him/herself to the election officer on duty. It is not transferrable.

As for the rule on media coverage, Mendros explained that only three media practitioners are allowed at a polling center in any given time, and they are prohibited to do actions that would disrupt the voting, counting or canvassing as well as to engage in partisan politics or influence the vote of the public.

Meantime, Mendros also reiterated to the media their right to vote under the Local Absentee Voting, which application is also downloadable from the Comelec website and will be accepted at any city election officer or provincial election supervisor offices until March 31.

"Those who will avail of the local absentee voting will cast their vote on Comelec designated polling places on April 28, 29 and 30 and they can only vote senatorial candidates and a party list group", Mendros added.

In the said media briefing, Mendros also give orientation on some media-related provisions of the Philippine Omnibus election code and Republic Act 9006 or the Fair Elections Act. A demonstration on the automated election system including the use of PCOS machine was also done.

Baguio-Benguet Vicariate Bishop Carlito Cenzon and members of the Baguio Heritage Foundation, a city civic organization involved in election information advocacy campaign, also attended the orientation./JDP/CCD-PIA CAR

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**JULIET SUBILAN**

**Applicants**

**Case No:87-01-1068**

### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Approval of Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO CITY - WANGAL via BUYAGAN and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 3, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant's shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant's and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 7th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**SAMUEL GALANG By: ALEJANDRO GALANG**

**Applicants**

**Case No: 94-CAR-128**

### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for the Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a taxi Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO CITY TO ANY POINT IN CAR and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 3, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant's shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant's and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 7th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**EMILIO BENITO**

**Applicants**

**Case No:97 - BC-374**

### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - WANGAL and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant's shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant's and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 15th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**HERMINIO ANGAGA**

**Applicants**

**Case No:93-CAR-377**

### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - U.P VILLAGE (gate) - MARVILLE (Irisan) and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Paodal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant's shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant's and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon by the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER-Regional Director this 15th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

## Twin Rites...

from page 12

world will long remember the epic struggle that Filipino and American soldiers put up in the jungle fastness and along the rugged cost of Bataan. They have stood up uncompromising under the constant and grueling fire of the enemy for more than three months. Besieged on land and blockaded by sea, cut off from all sources of help in the Philippines and in America, the intrepid fighters have done all that human endurance could bear."

The whole piece will be read by a student from the Baguio City National High School during the April 9 rites, for the surviving veterans to recall, and for the present generation to hear.

The few surviving veterans can only hope that sharing this and other facts of the war, including personal anecdotes of the war heroes, would help the younger ones understand why the Veterans Park had been fenced off.

The city had locked the grounds to put at bay boys who used to practice their skateboards and men who would sneak in gin and hold drinking sessions inside what should be—for all intents and purposes, and for all history—hallowed ground.

"Bataan has fallen...but the spirit that made it stand—a beacon to all liberty-loving people of the world—cannot fall," ended the radio report that Ramon Tuazon of the Asian Institute of Journalism described as a classic in broadcast journalism.

Also to be read in the twin rites coming two weeks in-between are the recollections of the late Sgt. Florencio Esteban. He was the historian of his unit, the famed 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry which fought side-by-side with the American soldiers for the liberation of Baguio and other places in the Cordillera in April, 1945.

Esteban wrote he remembered both the "Fall" and the infamous "Death March" thereafter because he was in both tragic events.

"It was painful, indeed, to accept initial defeat, but I knew there was a tomorrow to settle the score," recalled Sgt. Esteban. The hunger and pain of the Death March strengthened his resolve "to escape regardless of the consequences".

He did escape and rejoined the Allied Forces in the liberation of Baguio and Benguet which he recorded in several books on file at the Veterans Office at Camp Allen here.

Also seldom recalled is the gallantry of the Igorot defenders in Bataan, particularly in their clearing the jungle while under enemy fire to allow tanks sent by Gen. Fidel Segundo to penetrate and wipe out Japanese positions, as described in an article on Feb., 23, 1942 in the New York Times:

"Hampered by the dense undergrowth and lost in the confusing maze of bamboo thickets, vines and creepers, the tankers would have been impotent had it not been for the aid of the Igorot troops of 2nd Battalion, 11<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Hoisted to the top of the tanks where they were exposed to the fire of the enemy, these courageous tribesmen from north Luzon chopped away the entangling foliage with their bolos and served as eyes for the American tankers. From their position atop the tanks they fired

at the enemy, with pistols while guiding the drivers with sticks."

Esteban recalled how, prior to Bataan's fall, he and fellow defender Daniel Akia coped with hunger:

"In my case with Comrade Akia, we started to fish at night. Our catch was good for a week. At one point, some monkeys came to play in the trees covering our headquarters. Comrade Akia said: 'Let us wait until those monkeys are a little far from our headquarters and then...shoot them for food.' We roasted them and they lasted for at least one week."

More bits of history and anecdotes from the notes and memoirs of the 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry heroes will be read on April 27, at the 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Baguio, according to city councilor Joel Alangsab, chair of the twin observances.

Accenting on the need to heighten sense of local history, city mayor Mauricio Domogan recently sent off seventh-graders of the Baguio City National High School to their "Kids Heritage Walk" by stressing that the second world war in the Philippines began and ended in Baguio.

"The war started when Japanese planes bombed Camp John Hay morning of December 8, 1941," he told the children. "It ended on September 3, 1945 when Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, commander of the Japanese forces who earlier surrendered in Kiangnan, Ifugao, signed the formal surrender papers, also at Camp John Hay."/Ramon Dacawi.

## Public Hearing...

from page 12

PUVs are required to pass the smoke emission test before operating.

There was however an assertion of a capability study done over the past years that the fuel used in PUVs is the culprit and that the machines' readings differ in a very minimal state. A computer print-out should be given by the PETS as with the RITMT for detailed comparison, it was suggested.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan earlier maintained that the city's testing machines are in order, yet the procedure in testing should be looked into. He has also ordered the conduct of voluntary smoke emission tests in the city for PUVs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and issuance of Certification of Voluntary Testing (CVT) upon passing safe emission levels. He also ordered the RITMT-CAMU personnel to meticulously stick to the procedures of smoke testing.

Accordingly, operators who submit voluntarily to testing shall be exempt from side testing for a month for diesel vehicles and two months for gasoline-fed vehicles.

During the public hearing, PUV Operators and drivers officer Junie Iltiong proposed that the period of exemption be extended to two and three months.

This was noted and shall form part of the thorough study for amendments of the ordinance, Councilor Fianza said.

We shall look at the observed needs of the operators and drivers, as well as the general public in keeping the air we breathe as non-toxic, he ended./juliegfianza

## Sculptor in G-String...

from page 12

he donned his g-string and then worked with four chisels in fashioning out his winning piece from a 50 x 50-centimeter stone block.

What emerged was an old man beating a gong, on which he inscribed: "The Echo of an Old Man Laying the Sound of Wisdom; The Old Man Will be You and Me".

His entry won the Prix du Public (Audience Choice Prize) and was adjudged second in the Prix du Jury (Jury Prize), becoming the only double winner in the prestigious event that drew 30 sculptors from 20 countries.

The triumph sent expatriate Cordillerans to dancing to the beat of gongs brought out by expatriate Lolita Hafner who, together with his brother, Julio Monico, had sounded off Cordillerans in Switzerland to gather and rally behind their "kailian".

"The sound of the gansa (gong) echoed through the alps and lakes to thank Kabunian (the Almighty) for the recognition to a humble but talented 'kailian'," recalled Lolita.

From his base in southern Germany, former world traditional karate champion Julian Chees and his secretary Renate Doth motored 560 kilometers to join the victory celebration for three hours and then driving back the same distance on their return.

"A festival of its kind took place around the masterpiece of Gilbert, assume of our 'kababayans'. Bibak members from far regions of Switzerland and friends arrived with their home-prepared (food) and drinks," Julio said.

This summer, Bergano wants to start passing on that talent that made him a toast of Cordillerans, the audience and jury in the international sculpture competition in Morges.

"The workshop is my way of paying forward the kindness I received from fellow Cordillerans in Europe," he said of the 11-day kiddies' training he dubbed 'A Touch From the Past'.

It puts to action his thoughts on his art: "Everyone is a seed with much potential for greatness in it. Still, that potential, like a seed, needs elements to trigger its sprout and coax it to mature and bloom to its fullest. My sculpture may reflect such growth. It may inspire or communicate, or touch one's life."

The camp is supported by the National Commission on Culture and the Arts, Seven Angels College, Northlander Mercantile, Barangay Twin Peaks headed by village chief Francisco Milo and his fellow artists coming in as resource persons and facilitators.

Old man Aliguyon Bongyo, a "mumbaki" or traditional Ifugao priest, to preside over the opening ritual. Bergano and his nephew, Billy Gano, also a woodcarver and river stone sculptor, will conduct the workshop on driftwood carving from April 12 to 19.

Simultaneously, their fellow artists and cultural facilitators will open basic training in Benguet traditional music and dance, initially focusing on the "tinaktyad".

After a week in the gallery, the participants will walk to Ghana Farm to harvest bamboo for their course in making native musical instruments.

The artists and cultural workers will take time out for their own forum on April 17. The following day, Bergano will conduct a demo on river stone carving.

The summer workshop for about a hundred children, teachers, residents, artists and patrons will end on April 21 with a recital and concert./Ramon Dacawi.

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**HERMINIO ANGAGA**  
Applicants

Case No:93-CAR-433

## NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - DUMPSITE (Irisan) and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER, Regional Director this 15th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**ARLAN NORTES**  
Applicants

Case No:2007-CAR-0026

## NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a PUJ Service for the transportation of passengers and freights on the Line: BAGUIO PLAZA - san roque san luis and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above date, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant/s and may if they so desire, appear during the hearing.

This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER, Regional Director this 11th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Transportation and Communications  
LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING  
AND REGULATORY BOARD  
Cordillera Administrative Region  
Baguio City

**CESAR BALAGOT - Vendor**  
**LOU FRANZ M. CRUZ - Vendee**  
Applicants

Case No:2001BC-171

## NOTICE OF HEARING

This is an application for the Approval of Sale and Transfer with Extension of Validity of a Certificate of Public Convenience to operate a SCHOOL Service for the transportation of freights passengers from their residence to their respective school within Baguio City and Benguet and Vice Versa with the use of One (1) Unit.

Notice is hereby given that this application shall be heard by the Board on April 10, 2013 at 10:00 A.M./P.M. at the LTRFB Office, Poadal, Baguio City in which date and time the applicant/s shall formally submit his/her/their evidences.

At least ten (10) days prior to the above date, the applicant/s shall publish the NOTICE once in one (1) weekly newspaper of general circulation in the Cordillera Administrative Region.

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This application shall be acted upon the Board on the basis of its records and the documentary evidences submitted by the parties unless the Board deem necessary to receive additional documentary and/or oral evidence.

WITNESS, the Honorable CELINA B. CLAVER, Regional Director this 11th day of March 2013.

(SGD) Atty. ANABEL A. MARZAN-NULLAR  
Attorney IV

## Council Confirms City-Beneco

### Streetlight Deal

Council Confirms City-Beneco Streetlight

**Deal** BAGUIO CITY – The city council last Monday confirmed the memorandum of agreement between the city government and the Benguet Electric Cooperative Inc. (BENECO) that authorizes the power firm to take over the management and operation of the city's streetlights.

Mayor Mauricio Domogan and BENECO general manager Gerardo Verzosa earlier signed the agreement will last until the city has completed its streetlight management venture using the Light Emitting Diode (LED) technology or other forms of power saving devices.

Councilor Betty Lourdes Tabanda supported the confirmation but served intention to write the parties on her observations and suggestions in improving the MOA.

As per the MOA, BENECO will manage the city's streetlights and will be paid the equivalent of 12 burning hours of electric consumption for unmetered streetlights.

The power firm will also convert the city's metered streetlights into non-metered except the metered park lights, LED streetlights and metered lightings installed along flyovers and overpasses and metered streetlights which are being supplied and served by underground conductor wires located along Session Road, Upper Session Road Extension, Upper Magsaysay Road, Abanao Road, Abanao Road Extension, Harrison Road, Kisad Road and Legarda Road.

In taking charge of the streetlights, BENECO will assume duties and all liabilities in administering the streetlights and lighting fixtures "including any accidents or untoward incidents arising from the administration of said facilities..., undertake all repair, replacement or maintenance activities on its account and using its own means to include manpower, tools, contraptions, machineries and connoisseurs."

To ensure that all streetlights and lighting fixtures are maintained, the city will form an inspection committee which will include all barangay captains who will take charge of reporting busted or faulty streetlights or fixates to the BENECO. The said committee will also identify other public places that need to be illuminated./Aileen P. Refuerzo

## Twin Rites to Recall Bits of War History

Little known bits of war history that are seldom taught in class will be recalled in commemorative rites marking the "Fall of Bataan" on April 9 and Baguio's Liberation Day on April 27, both at the Veterans Park along Harrison Rd.

For one, perhaps only historians and survivors of the war – soldiers and civilians still alive today – heard

about that seven-paragraph oratorical piece of devastating news of the "fall" aired over the freedom fighters' clandestine radio station the evening of that fateful day in 1942: "Good evening everyone everywhere," Lt. Norman Reyes began the broadcast from inside the Malinta Tunnel in Corregidor. "This is your Voice of Freedom broadcast from some-

where in the Philippines."

He went on to read the piece written by then Lt. Salvador P. Lopez:

"Bataan has fallen. The Philippine-American troops on this war-ravaged and bloodstained peninsula have laid down their arms. With heads bloody but unbowed, they have yielded to the superior force and numbers of the enemy."

The broadcast foretold "the

Cont. on page 11

## Independent Tourism Office Targetted

BAGUIO CITY – Mayor Mauricio Domogan is fully confident that the city tourism office led by Benny Alhambra can ably handle matters within their concern, though he envisions an independent tourism department in coordination with the Baguio Convention and Visitors Bureau (BCVB) and the Department of Tourism (DOT-CAR).

"We support the creation of a tourism department, but it is not that easy, since there is a limit on our budgetary requirements for personnel," the mayor said. The Information Technology department has earlier aired intentions to be an independent office, but was rebuffed with the same funding limitation.

The remarks came in the heels of reports that Baguio City tourism rate has dropped.

"The city is a tourism haven and income to the city's coffers from said sector could not be ignored," the mayor admitted. Tourists, even locals nowadays have choices which place to visit, thus we have to be competitive, the mayor said.

It would be a friendly competition however, as we have to support, cooperate and partner with other interesting places to see around the country, he added. We can share learnings with them, too, he further said.

We endeavor to strengthen trade in the city and maintain its mark of being the Educational Center of the North, the mayor ended. /juliegfianza

## Public Hearing on Smoke Emission Roadside Tests Done

BAGUIO CITY – A technical working group (TWG) shall be created to help work out amendments of the city's clean air act ordinance including provisions for the Roadside Inspection Testing and Monitoring Team (RITMT), Councilor Peter Fianza said last Thursday during a public hearing conducted at City Hall, Session Hall.

Present during the forum are council committee chair and members of the Public Utilities, Transportation and Traffic Legislation; Councilors Nicasio Aliping, Jr., Edison Bilog, and Fianza, respectively; Engineer Moises Lozano of the RITMT, City Environment and Parks Management Office (CEPMO), and representatives from various transport groups.

The RITMT, was earlier the subject of complaints from Public Utility Vehicle (PUV) drivers and operators as to alleged inconsistencies in the machines' smoke emission readings. Objections as to alleged changeable readings were also aired for those whose vehicles were caught randomly and tested on-site and at the Clean Air Monitoring Unit (CAMU), CEPMO at Sanitary Camp.

Some drivers claim their vehicles passed in accredited Private Emission Testing Centers (PETS), caught for smoke-belching along the

streets and fail in the city's RITMT machines and at the CAMU at Sanitary Camp. This speaks of uneven readings from the different testing machines, provided that the vehicle's mechanisms and engines were never tampered with, they said.

Some said that PUVs traversing their route when caught should be allowed to deliver their passengers and submit to further testing at a later time.

"It is very costly to be caught, as we have to pay the fines, after being assured by the PETS of not being a smoke-belcher," the operators and drivers collectively claimed.

Cont. on page 11



## Reopening of Session Road Pedestrian Lane Sought

BAGUIO CITY – Citing the clamor of barangay officials, senior citizens and business establishments, the city council on Monday asked Mayor Mauricio Domogan to cause the re-opening of the pedestrian lane along the approach of Session Road.

The body approved a resolution containing the request for the re-opening of the pedestrian walk located between Mercury Drug Store and the former Pines Theater.

The resolution said the closure of said lane has caused inconvenience to senior citizens and affected the business establishments around the area.

The closure of the said lane along with the other walkway located between Porta Vaga and National Life Building was among the traffic measures broached in the city council in 2011.

It was subjected to an experimental run and was later deemed effective in improving the traffic situation in the area by the Traffic and Transportation Management Council (TTMC) which even recommended its permanent implementation to the city council.

Domogan is expected to subject the city council move to the TTMC for consideration./A Refuerzo

## Sculptor in G-String Gearing up for Kids' Workshop

Gilbert "Bergano" Gano Alberto, the award-winning Ifugao woodcarver who shifted to sculpting driftwood and river stone, wants to pass on his blessings to the kids in his neighborhood along Kennon Rd. He has rounded up 49 of them as pioneer trainees of the First Igorot Gallery and Ghana Bergano Foundation Summer Art Camp-Workshop this summer.

His gallery beside the highway at Twin Peaks, Tuba, Benguet is hardly that. Still, his workshop has likewise drawn teachers of the nearby Palaoag

Elementary School and barangay officials of Twin Peaks who enrolled and are co-sponsoring the workshop from April 11 to 21.

Bergano is the same artist who, in June, 2011, found his way to the 10<sup>th</sup> International Sculpture Symposium in Morges Castle, Switzerland. There,

Cont. on page 11



**ROAD CONDITIONS UPDATE** – City Engineer Leo Bernardes informs Mayor Mauricio Domogan and members of the city council headed by Vice Mayor Daniel Fariñas during Executive-legislative meeting March 18 that all roads leading to the city of Baguio are well monitored in close coordination

with the Department of Public Works of Highways and volunteer groups to ensure the safety of motorists and provide assistance this coming Holy Week./By Bong Cayabyab

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